

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0419

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

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AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 08629

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, GW, GE, WB

SUBJECT: FRG REPORT ON SECOND ROUND OF FRG-GDR NEGOTIA-
TIONS ON RAIL TRANSIT TRAFFIC.

REF: BONN 6362

SUMMARY: FRG HAS BRIEFED ALLIES IN BONN GROUP ON SECOND
ROUND, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN EAST BERLIN ON MAY 20, OF
INNER-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS ON RAIL TRANSIT TRAFFIC. EACH
SIDE WAS LED BY SAME MEN WHO HEADED FIRST ROUND, PERM
REP CHIEF GAUS FOR FRG AND DEP TRANSPORT MINISTER WINKLER
FOR GDR. MOST IMPORTANT RESULTS WERE GDR INDICATION OF
WILLINGNESS TO FORM EXPERT GROUP TO BEGIN CONSIDERATION
OF DETAILED QUESTIONS, AND OF GDR MOVEMENT ON FINANCING
ISSUE. THE THIRD ROUND IS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1, ALSO IN
EAST BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

1. THE SECOND ROUND OPENED WITH A BRIEF RECAPITULATION
OF FIRST ROUND. FRG BONN GROUP REP (KASTRUP), READING
FROM GAUS' REPORT, SAID BOTH SIDES EMPHASIZED EARLIER
POSITIONS REGARDING FINANCING OF PROJECTS (BUT SEE
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BELOW). GAUS THEN SAID THAT BONN HAD EXAMINED GDR

DESIRES RE DOUBLE-TRACKING (SEE REFTEL) AND HAD CONCLUDED THAT THE HIGH COSTS INVOLVED PRECLUDED ANY FOLLOW-UP FOR FORESEEABLE FUTURE.

2. GAUS CONTINUED, SAYING IT WAS FRG VIEW THAT POINT IN TALKS REACHED WHERE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO FORM EXPERT GROUP WHICH WOULD DEAL WITH SPECIFIC MATTERS ASSIGNED BY GAUS AND WINKLER. FRG THUS PROPOSED FORMATION OF EXPERT GROUP WITH TASKS AS FOLLOWS:

-- A) STUDY VARIOUS WAYS AND AT WHAT COSTS SCHWANHEIDE STATION (BOUNDARY PROCESSING POINT FOR HAMBURG-BERLIN RAIL TRAFFIC) CAPACITY MIGHT BE INCREASED;

-- B) REGARDING PASSENGER TRAINS, STUDY IMPROVEMENTS IN HAMBURG-BERLIN SERVICE, AND IN LONG-DISTANCE EXPRESS SERVICE COMPARABLE WITH TEE QUALITY FROM RUHR AREA VIA HANNOVER TO BERLIN; AND

-- C) STUDY POSSIBILITIES, OTHER THAN DOUBLE TRACKING, FOR REDUCING TRAVEL TIME FROM FRG TO BERLIN, E.G., MODERNIZATION OF SIGNAL INSTALLATIONS, OR BETTER SCHEDULING OF LOCAL TRAINS TO ALLOW EXPRESS RUNS BETTER THROUGH ACCESS.

WINKLER INDICATED LIKELIHOOD OF POSITIVE GDR RESPONSE TO FRG PROPOSAL, INDICATING TOO THAT REPLY WOULD BE MADE PRIOR TO THIRD ROUND OF TALKS SCHEDULED FOR JULY 1. HE ADDED THAT HE WOULD HAVE TO RESERVE ON WHETHER ADDITIONAL ITEMS MIGHT BE ADDED TO THREE FRG POINTS.

3. MOST IMPORTANT GAUS-WINKLER EXCHANGE OCCURRED DURING DISCUSSION HELD PRIVATELY BETWEEN THE TWO DELEGATION CHIEFS. GAUS' REPORT SAID THAT WINKLER RAISED ISSUE OF COST DISTRIBUTION, CLEARLY INDICATING THAT GDR HAS UNDERSTANDING FOR FRG POSITION THAT BONN COULD NOT BEAR ANY AGREEMENT UNDER WHICH THE PROJECTS WOULD TOTALLY BE PAID BY THE WEST GERMANS. WINKLER ADDED HE MUST NOTE THAT "IF" IT COMES TO A DISTRIBUTION OF COSTS, AN APPROPRIATE "PSYCHOLOGICAL-POLITICAL" FORMULATION MUST BE CONFIDENTIAL

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USED.

4. COMMENT: KASTRUP SAID WINKLER STATEMENT WAS FIRST INDICATION OF GDR MOVEMENT ON FINANCING ISSUE. HE TOLD ALLIED REPS THAT FRG CONSIDERS THIS INFORMATION PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE AND REQUESTS IT BE CLOSELY HELD.
HILLENBRAND

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